

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

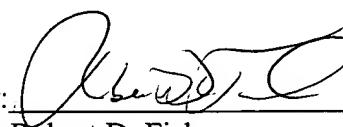
The Examiner pointed out that in the Preliminary Amendment filed on April 30, 2003, "claims 18-21 do not correspond to the old claims 18-21 already in the case." Further, the Examiner pointed out,

...that when claim 17 was canceled, the previous claim 18 was dropped, and old claim 19 substituted therefore, except that the amendments made in the first Preliminary Amendment filed with the national stage were not included. A substitute amendment is needed to correct these problems.

Applicant agrees and has correctly re-numbered claims 18-21 to correspond with the "old claims 18-21." In addition, Applicant has amended "old claim 19" (now correctly re-numbered as claim 19) to include the amendments made in the first Preliminary Amendment filed with the national stage. The Substitute Amendment also includes re-numbered claims 21-23 added previously in the Preliminary Amendment dated April 30, 2003 as claims 22-24 per the Examiner's request.

The Examiner stated that there were some informalities fixed by the April 30, 2003 Preliminary Amendment that were not properly underlined, nor were changes from the first Preliminary Amendment filed with the national stage. The Examiner specifically pointed to the amendments to "claim 1, lines 4-5 where -- "the"-- was added before "reducer", -- "that...weight"-- is new, and previously in claim 17 (now canceled)." Applicant has made the required changes including showing the amendments filed in response to the Written Opinion during Chapter II of the international stage.

Respectfully submitted,
Rutan & Tucker, LLP

By: 

Robert D. Fish
Reg. No. 33,880

Dated: 11/12/03
Attorneys for Applicant(s)
P.O. Box 1950
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-1950
Tel: (714) 641-5100
Fax: (714) 546-9035